

## HB 540 -- Council for Community Education

Sponsor: Walton Gray

This bill establishes the Council for Community Education in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education which will consist of 11 members appointed by the Governor. The duties of the council are to conduct feasibility studies on the establishment of community education programs; to advise the department on issues relating to community education programs; to make recommendations on a state community education plan for community schools and a priority system for targeting resources to the areas of greatest need; and to make recommendations on funding community education programs. The bill defines "community school" as a school that makes its building available for citizen use in community improvement; "community education program" is defined as using a public building, which may include a school, as a community center operated by a school board in cooperation with other groups to serve the needs and interests of the community.